

The Connecticut
Department
of Correction



Remember Our Troops

P.R.I.D.E.

Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

AT WORK



Correctional Employee Week August 1 - 7, 2004

It is with deep admiration and heartfelt gratitude that I recognize the incredible staff of the Connecticut Department of Correction during National Correctional Employees Week. As I reflect back over the accomplishments of our agency during the past year, it is undeniable that our great success is a direct result of the depth of dedication, competency, and professionalism at every level of our Department. I take immense pride in the praise and confidence that Governor M. Jodi Rell and others in our state have expressed in the ability of our agency to carry out our core mission of protection of the public. Again this year, you in many instances have without hesitation, placed your own safety on the line to insure our facilities are secure and orderly. Your drive to confront each challenge with nothing less than excellence has allowed our agency to move forward to provide improved and more fiscally responsible care, custody and control of the offender population. It is truly an honor to lead the best correctional staff in the country. We are committed to a common vision, with the mutual goal of fulfilling our mission and together we are one terrific team. Individually, you each have my sincere appreciation for a job well done.

With PRIDE,

Theresa C. Lantz
Commissioner

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Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration

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About and for
correctional
professionals

July 18 - 31,
2004

Class 225 Graduates at time of Optimism



The 25 members of pre-service Class 225 were told by an unlikely source during their graduation that they are joining the DOC at, "a very positive time, a time of great optimism and promise under the leadership of Commissioner Theresa Lantz." That remark was made by the graduation speaker, Gerard Smyth, the Chief Public Defender for the State of Connecticut. While he admitted

that choosing him as a guest speaker might have seemed unusual in light of his mission of keeping people out of prison, he pointed out that he, the graduates and the Department of Correction are all part of the state's criminal justice community. The class represented nearly all facets of departmental professions, including correction officers, teachers, food service staff, maintenance personnel and HVAC technicians. "There is no greater calling than public service and insuring the public's safety," said Commissioner Theresa Lantz. She urged the graduates to uphold the highest levels of integrity in their new profession. Attorney Smyth offered an important piece of advice to the DOC staff. "What I have found is that people generally respond in kind, and if you treat inmates with dignity and respect, most will treat you the same in return," he said.



(L-R) Class 225 Graduate Sandra Sacco of York CI with her father, CFSS II Frank Sacco of New Haven CC

Promotions

Commissioner Lantz announces the following promotions of staff members who were advanced to the rank of Major:

Anne Cournoyer
Carol Chapdelaine
Michelle Maynard

Central Office
Enfield CI
Garner CI

Congratulations!

Pride.
AT
Work

for
July 18 - 31, 2004

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M. Jodi Rell,
Governor

Theresa C. Lantz,
Commissioner

Web address:
www.doc.state.ct.us

Public Information
Office telephone:
860.692.7780
fax:
860.692.7783

Why I Chose to Join the Best



PRIDE at Work has profiled some of the newest members of the agency who are a part of Pre-Service Class 224. During their first week at MCTSD, they were asked to write an essay explaining why they chose to become a member of the Department of Correction. Their reasons make clear that our PRIDE, as the best correctional agency in the country, is an ideal that others are drawn to and seek to call their own. This week we feature Correctional Officer Clayton Strachan of the Carl Robinson Correctional Institution

"This is an opportunity to work hand in hand with people who hold responsibility, dependability and camaraderie as a high standard. Day in and day out I will have the opportunity to use and strengthen these three tools. Just knowing that someone has your back at any given time, gives me the strength to perform. Whether it was through a college course or first hand experiences, corrections has always intrigued me, it is an intense profession. Every Day, every Shift will be different. I look forward to each and every day."

Job Well Done

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You are in a foreign country, enjoying your vacation and then you begin to slip beneath the clear, warm water. Your cries for help go unnoticed. Your struggle to remain on the surface fails and you sink deeper and deeper. Undoubtedly, this story has been told over and over again by the family of an unidentified Asian woman who almost drowned while vacationing in Florida this past Spring.

The reason she is able to tell of her tropical ordeal is because of the heroic efforts of Lieutenant Russell Maggio of the Hartford Correctional Center. Maggio just happened to be swimming in the same area as the



fateful snorkler. She was behind an "Aztec monument" that had been placed in the water as an attraction for the divers, Maggio said. The lifeguards who were on duty apparently didn't see her and she was "just screaming." Neither she nor her husband (who was swimming nearby) spoke any English.

Without any experience in water rescue, Maggio hurried to the area then dove beneath the water, retrieved the woman and brought her to the attention of the lifeguards. Maggio smiles at the thought of performing a heroic act. "Anyone would do the same thing" he says. Tell that to one lucky lady and her appreciative husband. "He kept patting me on the head because he didn't know how to say what he wanted to" Maggio said.

Whether the pat is on the head or on the back, it is the universal way to say "Job Well Done."

Corrections

On page 3 of the July 4 - 17, 2004 edition of PRIDE, in the article "Remembering One of Our Own" two names were inadvertently omitted from the list of committee members. They are Theresa Giaccone and Janet Sicilia.

On page 3 of the June 20- July 3, 2004 issue of PRIDE, in the article "Pomp and Circumstance" Amie Wright will have ten years of state service in December, three of which have been with the Department of Correction.

We are sorry for any inconvenience that these miscommunications may have caused.

Northern Staff Raise 10K

A Benefit Golf Tournament and Family Outing sponsored by the Kevin Hull Benefit Committee raised \$10,000 to support the family of Nathan Hull, son of officer Kevin Hull, who has suffered from a congenitive heart disease since birth. The check was donated on May 27, 2004 to Kevin and his wife Maureen, a former correctional officer. The donatations will help to defray the cost of several surgeries and treatment at the Boston Children's Hospital. The benefit committee consisting of Lt. Gerald Hines, Officers Francis Matys, Brian Couture and John Norwood began coordinating the event months in advance, soliciting local businesses for donations, contacting caterers and arranging a wonderful golf event.

The staff of Northern CI continue to show their love and support for the Hull family.



Left, Kevin and Maureen Hull with Nathan as staff pose with a ceremonial check presented to the family.

Forgiveness and Healing

It has been almost 17 years since Reverend Walter Everett has spoken to his son Scott. However, he talks to the man who is responsible for Scott's death quite frequently. Both Everett and Mike Carlucci were the featured speakers at a (VOICES) Victim Offender Institutional Correctional Educational Services program recently at the Brooklyn CI.

As the assembled audience listened to the tragic tale of losing a child they also strained to understand how a man whose life had been turned upside-down could work toward reconciliation and forgiveness of his son's killer. Everett had been exposed to other victim's family members, who decades later still harbored the anger and resentment associated with a recent event. "I can't live with that anger anymore," Everett said.

Continued on Page 5, *Forgiveness*

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Calendar

August 1 – August 7

Correctional Employee's Week

August 6 - Annual Awards

Ceremony w/ Governor Rell

August 27 - Retirement Gathering for Lorenzo Byam at the Country House Restaurant in East Haven. For ticket information please contact Lt. Freeman, C/O Miles, or C/O Mack at 203. 250.2600; C/O James Outlaw 203. 789.7111, C/O Carol Lomax 203. 271.5900 or Pat Byam 203. 525.0395

September 3 - The Warden's Cup Charity Golf Tournament which benefits the Pioneer Valley Hospice will be held at the Chicopee Country Club. The Shotgun scramble format will begin at 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$85. For ticket info please contact Capt. Eric Stewart, Lt. Mike Ruggeri or C/O Robert Hewins all of Osborn CI at 860. 566.7500.

September 5 - Brooklyn CI is sponsoring a charity auction to benefit the 2004 Connecticut Special Olympics. The auction will take place at Weston's Antiques and Gallery in Coventry. If you would like to donate an item and for additional information please contact Sue Sorensen at 860. 779.2600.

October 17 - Steelers vs. Cowboys 2004 Road Trip to Texas Stadium For more information contact C/ O Dirty Mack at 203.250.2690 or 203. 435.5852.

Forgiveness, Cont'd

When the anger is internalized, it punishes the survivors and allows the offender to maintain control of another's emotional health. In contrast, Everett belongs to a support group which emphasizes restorative instead of punitive justice. The primary focus is on the well-being of the survivor and attempting to make the community whole again.

Counselor William Rivera runs the program at the state's eastern-most facility. He rearranged the curriculum to accommodate the dynamic message of empathy that was on display.

The simple phrase "I'm sorry" which was spoken by Carlucci at his sentencing opened the door for Everett to begin the healing and establish what would come to be a friendship born of tragedy.



Reverend Walter Everett addresses inmates at Brooklyn CI

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Legislative Proposals

In preparation for the next legislative session, Commissioner Lantz would like to solicit the input of all our employees who may wish to propose legislative recommendations for consideration. If you have any idea or suggestions that may assist us in formulating responsible legislation, please take a few moments to fill out the Legislative Proposal Form and return it to Major Anne Cournoyer, Legislative Liaison, at 24 Wolcott Hill Road Wethersfield, CT 06109 by August 23, 2004. All recommendations will be reviewed and given appropriate consideration. If you have questions regarding this, please contact Anne Cournoyer at 860-692-7510. A copy of the Legislative Proposal Form is available on the X drive in the "DOC in the News" folder.

Did you know?

Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This week's issue was submitted by Mark Rashaw who can be reached at 860-692-7558. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact David Batten, Acting Director at 860-692-7554.

Here are a few more tips for you do-it-yourselfers and handy persons.

- Did you know that your toilet plunger works well to unclog sink and tub drains.
- When tiny paint touch ups are necessary, use a throw away Q-tip instead of a brush.
- The best strainer for paint is an old nylon stocking. Old window screen material also works well.
- When using a paint mixing wand on the end of a power drill to mix your paint, take an old paint lid cover and cut the center out of it. Insert mixing wand through the hole and place the lid on the can of paint you are about to mix. This helps prevent the paint from being splattered all over the place.
- Use a coffee can when cleaning a paintbrush with paint thinner. After the brushes have been cleaned, cover the can and let it sit for a week or so. The paint will settle to the bottom and you can then pour the clear thinner into a different container to be used next time.
- Rub soap or candle wax on the runners of your dresser draws to keep them from sticking and to make them slide easier.
- An old tooth brush is an excellent tool for removing dust, dirt and grit from all the little nook's and crannies in furniture and other hard to clean areas.



Helping Hand

On Thursday, July 15, 2004 the Department of Correction and "Habitat for Humanity" began a one-year partnership constructing houses for families that otherwise would not be able to afford their own home. Five inmates from the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution assisted a Hartford homeowner with a number of construction related tasks and are scheduled lend a hand once a week.

The four-bedroom house which skirts the former "Charter Oak Terrace" projects, will not only serve as a home to mom and her children, but will also serve as a reminder that community extends beyond walls and fences.



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MVP's:

Allen, Mark	Chaplain	OCI
Anderson, Kevin	CFSS III	BCC
Austin, Howard	CFSS II	BCC
Cox, Andre	C/O	BCC
Curry, Norman	CFSS II	BCC
Cyr, Renee	CC	CRCI
Donahue, Sean	C/O	OCI
Dunnham, Sherri	C/O	OCI
Finelli, Donna	Sec II	WCI
Flanagan, Robin	Sec I	CO
Ford-Deedon, Kenneth	CFSS II	BCC
Gardino, Ronald	C/O	BCC
Golas, Steven	C/O	CRCC
Guida, Suzanne	Admin Asst	CRCC
Hatton, Cleave	C/O	BCC
Jaskiewicz, Christopher	CTO	CRCC
Johnston, Carol	CC	WCI
Jones, Mark	CFSS II	BCC
LeBlanc, Andrew	C/O	OCI
Leviton, Jerry	Rec Supv	CRCI
Lintgeris, Nicholas	CFSS II	BCC
Loisearu, Raymond	C/O	MYI
McDonald, Jeffrey	C/O	BCC
Milutis, Carey	OA	MYI
Mirto, Frank	CC	BCC
Morton, Sandra	Capt	CRCC
Morris, Lawrence	Pers Off II	CO
Nevith, Leeartis	C/O	CRCC
Noyce, George	C/O	CRCC
Palmer, Gregory	C/O	CRCC
Passaro, Ronald	CFSS II	BCC
Petracca, Steven	C/O	MYI
Pliss, James	CFSS II	BCC
Ramos, Nelson	C/O	OCI
Recupido, Sandra	CFSS II	BCC
Santiago, Rey	CC	CRCC
Schmidt, William	Rec Supv	CRCI
Schweighoffer, Kurt	C/O	CRCC
Stites, Penny	PPTSA	CO
Viele, Timothy	C/O	CRCC
Whitley, Scott	C/O	BCC
Workman, Karen	Sec 1	CRCC

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT REVIEW

The following is a review of the tuition reimbursement program.

- In order to qualify, you have to be a state employee for at least 6 months. Tuition reimbursement is based on availability of funds through the bargaining units or managerial pay plans and is not guaranteed.
- Applications must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the semester. They must be complete and accurate to include course titles, start and finish dates, and cost information. Courses of study must be to assist an employee in upward mobility or in a job related area from an accredited institution, college, or university.
- The final paperwork is due, as soon as possible, at the end of the semester. It should consist of 2 copies of proof of payment and 2 copies of your passing grades. All proof of payments must clearly show the name of the institution and the amount paid. Proof of payment can be copies of the front and back of a cancelled check, credit card bill, or a cash receipt.

The Department of Correction encourages your participation in this program. For submittal of applications and further information and related paperwork, contact Penny Stites, Personnel Assistant/PPT at (860) 692-6808. Mailing address is STATE OF CONNECTICUT, Department of Correction, Human Resources Unit, 24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

Addiction Services Staff Receive Certifications

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At the annual Awards Ceremony for the Connecticut Certification Board, for Department of Correction employees received credentials that recognized their competency demonstrated through work experience, quality references, supervised training, and successful completion of the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium written exam and an oral interview based on the Case Presentation Method.



Doreen Krupp, Elizabeth. Martinez, Giuliana Mudano, Deborah Henault and Director Patricia Ottolini at the Connecticut Certification Board Awards Ceremony

Major Elizabeth Martinez, Counselor Supervisor Deborah Henault, Counselor Doreen Krupp and Counselor Giuliana Mudano, all Addiction Services staff members, were recognized for their accomplishments and achieved their certification goals over the past year for their time, efforts and dedication to the treatment of substance abuse in the state of Connecticut.

Major Martinez has been with the agency since 1992 and was promoted to Major of the Addiction Services Unit in 2003. She received recognition as a certified alcohol and drug counselor. Counselor Supervisor Henault, who works at Central Office, began her career with the Department in 1985. She was certified as a Clinical Supervisor. Counselor Krupp received her certification as an alcohol and drug counselor. Currently she is assigned to the Hartford Correctional Center. She has five years with the agency. Counselor Mudano works at Robinson CI and has been with the DOC since 1999. She received her certification as an alcohol and drug counselor.

PRIDE Submissions

Effective immediately, ALL submissions to the PRIDE newsletter should be sent to **Counselor Supervisor Stacy Smith**. This will enhance our efforts to operate more efficiently. This shall include, but is not limited to Photographs, Articles, Thank You Letters, Agency Good Neighbors, Job Well Done, MVP letters, Announcements, Calendar items, Birth/Death Notices, Employee of the Quarter, News of Staff Accomplishments (Degrees/Certification/Awards/Professional Recognition), Parent's PRIDE, and Years of Service.

Submissions may be sent via fax at (860) 692-7783, interdepartmental mail, or by email to Stacy.Smith@po.state.ct.us

We will endeavor to print submissions in a timely manner and as space permits. We will make every effort to use all items that are submitted.

We encourage all employees to submit articles and items for PRIDE with the approval of unit managers/immediate supervisors where appropriate, and as always we welcome your suggestions and comments.

Around the cell block

New York- An inmate at the Watertown Correctional Facility has sued the warden over the improper display of the American flag.

Pennsylvania- After being mistakenly jailed for a year because of a clerical error, an inmate was left to walk home after officers gave his mother the wrong release time.

Massachusetts- State police have suspended five civilian employees at their headquarters who allegedly had sex with female inmates assigned to clean the facility.

Kentucky- The state parole board is releasing more inmates with a granting rate of 41% in 2003 as compared to 31% the year before.